

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Rice et al

For : Method and Apparatus For Welding and  
Control Thereof

Attorney Docket No. : ITW 13128.02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the issuance of the first Office Action please  
amend the above-referenced application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specifications** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims  
which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10  
of this paper.